



Department of Environmental Protection

McGilpin Road in Sturbridge Project Update for the Week of September 11, 2017

Residential and Direct Well Sampling

MassDEP completed its third round of residential sampling on McGilpin Road in June. Along with the samples from the homes, MassDEP also completed direct well sampling at selected homes. We had expected to have access to only 6-8 wells, but were able to sample 23 wells at the wellhead directly. Those results are included on the summary table with the results from the previous sample locations at the homes. The complete data packages for this round of sampling are available upon request, but are voluminous.

The third round of sampling of home plumbing systems found concentrations of total lead in samples collected *before* home treatment systems or pressure tanks ranging from below the detection limit to a maximum of 880 ug/l. Concentrations of total lead in samples collected *after* treatment or the pressure tank range from below the detection limit in 30 of the 36 samples to a maximum of 18.3 ug/l. The June sampling of residential wells at the wellhead detected concentrations of total lead in well water ranging from below the detection limit in 12 of the 23 wellhead samples to a maximum of 6.6 ug/l, which is below the MassDEP Drinking Water Action level of 15 ug/l.

Using these results, we are now refining our residential sampling plan and developing a schedule for follow-up sampling. Staff will also meet with USGS in October to solicit their input.

Installation of Monitoring Wells

MassDEP activated a statewide contract for contractor services to assist with conducting geophysical investigations in preparation for the installation of monitoring wells at locations between the Southbridge Landfill and McGilpin Road, including on property owned by Southbridge Recycling and Disposal Park (SRDP). Responses from contractors were due August 9, 2017. MassDEP is reviewing the nine responses now and expects to select a contractor shortly. We have had to adjust the schedule for subsurface investigation to begin in early fall, rather than late July because of the inaccessibility of some of the potential locations.

Surface Water and Sediment Sampling

DEP conducted additional surface water and sediment sampling in and around the Southbridge Landfill and McKinstry Brook during the week of July 24th. We received the data last month and have posted the latest results online. As with the residential sampling, we have shared this data with the USGS and hope to receive their input.